

Appl. No. 10/624,915

Amendments to the Specification:

The paragraph beginning on page 68, line 4, has been amended as follows:

An apparatus and methods for treating sleep apnea and/or snoring ~~is~~ are provided. The apparatus includes an appliance sized and structured to be placed in the pharyngeal region of a human or animal. ~~and being~~ The appliance, when so placed is effective in treating sleep apnea and/or snoring, for example in maintaining openness of an oropharyngeal region of a human or animal during natural sleep, ~~advantageously while not interfering with normal functioning of the epiglottis.~~ Preferably, the appliance is non-circumferential in form and includes rounded, spaced apart end portions.